WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A vehicle periphery monitoring apparatus for picking up an image of the periphery of a vehicle, comprising:

a case configured to be mounted on the vehicle and comprises a front case member having a transparent window and a rear case member attached to the front case member;

an image pickup device provided within the case and configured to pick up an image of the periphery of the vehicle and to provide the image picked up into a cabin of the vehicle; and

a cover member configured to cover the front case member except for the transparent window and to cover a periphery of a mating surface between the front case member and the rear case member.

2. The vehicle periphery monitoring apparatus as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a rattletrap preventing rib provided on at least one of an outer periphery of the front case member and an inner periphery of the cover member.

3. The vehicle periphery monitoring apparatus as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

a first locking portion provided on the case; and

a second locking portion provided on the cover member and configured to be locked to the first locking member.

4. The vehicle periphery monitoring apparatus as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a water drainage hole formed

on a lower portion of the cover member.

5. The vehicle periphery monitoring apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transparent window projects outward from the cover member to form a step at peripheral edge thereof.

6. The vehicle periphery monitoring apparatus as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

a fitting projection provided on one of an outer surface of a proximal end of the case and an inner surface of a proximal end of the cover member; and

a fitting recess to which the fitting projection is fitted provided on the other of the outer surface and the inner surface.

7. The vehicle periphery monitoring apparatus as claimed in claim 1 further comprising an adhesive member provided between an outer surface of a distal end of the case and an inner surface of a distal end of the cover member, and configured to adhere the case and the cover member.

8. The vehicle periphery monitoring apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the adhesive member comprises a double-faced adhesive tape.

9. The vehicle periphery monitoring apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transparent window comprises:

a pair of left and right transparent window portions each provided on left and right side of the front case member,

respectively; and

a lower transparent window portion provided on lower surface between the pair of left and right transparent window portions,

wherein the pair of left and right transparent window portions and the lower transparent window portion are each formed of a curved surface having same thickness and are integrally formed by a continuous curved surface.

10. The vehicle periphery monitoring apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the pair of left and right transparent window portions and the lower transparent window portion are formed of an elliptic surface.

11. The vehicle periphery monitoring apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the pair of left and right transparent window portions and the lower transparent window portion are formed of a spherical surface.